A DETAIL OF LOTTERY DREAMS.

Containing Something of

MORALITY,

DIVINITY,

AND

PHILOSOPHY.

Shewing the

NATURE, EFFECT, and DESIGN,

OF

Lottery Schemes.

Very Inſtructive to younger Perſons, and Recommended to all.

Omnibus dormio. TER.

Auri ſacra Fames!

LONDON:

Printed for F. NOBLE, at *Otway's-Head* in *St. Martin's-Court* near *Leiceſter-Fields*, and ſold at the Pamphlet Shops of *London* and *Weſtminſter*.

LOTTERY DRAWS.

OF

DELAVAL.

THE

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TO THE READER.

WHEN a Man rightly conſiders the fatal Conſequences that attend a Lottery, I think it a duty incumbent on him to warn others, both by Precept and Example, from falling into ſo pernicious a Practice. Lotteries are in a double Capacity detrimental to Trade, &c. firſt, by drawing the Money out of its proper Channel; and ſecondly, by engroſſing the Thoughts

Thoughts of the Trader from his proper Buſineſs. Wherever I went I was entertained with Nocturnal Viſions, Perſons flattering themſelves in their Sleep with prodigious Profit from their chimerical Adventures; a plain Indication that their Thoughts in the day were employed on the ſame Subject.

Some ſay that Dreams have no Signification; others affirm they have, and allude to Tranſactions either paſt, preſent, or future, which may be confirm'd both by ſacred and other Writings; but be that as it will, the following ſeem to have a ſtrong Alluſion to Lotteries in general, and in ſome Meaſure ſhew the Folly

of

of thoſe, who ground their Proſperity on the Smiles of Fortune.

I come now to make an Apology to my Reader for the Incorrectneſs of Stile: When I firſt enter'd upon this little Piece, it was for my own Amuſement, without the leaſt intention of ſending it into the World; but ſeveral of my Friends getting Sight of it, obliged me, after repeated Denials, to put it to the Preſs. I then begg'd Leave for a little Time to dreſs it in better Cloathing; but that Objection too was wav'd, by telling me, that a Thing of this Nature ſhould be publiſhed, when a ſimilar Affair was on the Anvil. In ſhort, the Performance, ſuch

as

as it is, the Reader is welcome to; and if in this, or any future Time, it ſhould be in the leaſt beneficial to him, it will well anſwer the Pains of his humble Servant,

The AUTHOR.

THE

Lottery Dreams.

DREAM I.

Of the Golden Harveſt.

WHEN my wearied Limbs, thro' the Fatigue of Buſineſs, were lull'd to ſweet Repoſe, I dream'd that an Eagle (the favourite Bird of *Jove*) took me on his Wings, raiſed me almoſt to the Orbit of the Moon, and conveyed me to a certain Plain where there was a Field of Golden Wheat, and the Labourers very buſy in reaping the ſame.

I was ſet down near the Labourers of this tempting Harveſt, and aſk'd them how this Field came to produce ſuch ſort of Corn?

They reply'd, the Soil was of ſo Golden a Nature, that it was capable of no other Production: However, it did not annually do ſo, becauſe it was not yearly ſown; neither would it bear ſo often, becauſe it required ſome Years Cultivation.

They ſaid that this rich Grain was unknown to *Ceres*, the Goddeſs of Tillage, and the firſt Inventor thereof, otherwiſe ſhe might perhaps have ſpread it all over the World; but that it was the Property of many thouſand People, who had but an uncertain Hope of any Increaſe, or whether they ſhould ever ſee their Grain again; but they that were employ'd in the Agriculture were ſure of the Reward of their Labour from the Fruits of the Harveſt; and as to the Owners, there was no Certainty who ſhould reap Benefit: They for whom we ſow much Corn, may not obtain ſo plentiful a Harveſt as they for whom we ſow little; for Dame FORTUNE preſides over this Harveſt, and does what ſhe pleaſes in the Diſtribution; to ſome that imagine to have much, inſtead of Wheat ſhe'll give them Chaff, for on ſome ſhe'll ſmile, and on others frown, treating thoſe that come in her Way with her uncertain Favour and blind Underſtanding; for ſhe is the Goddeſs of Ignorance, neither would ſhe be made wiſe, and therefore was baniſhed the Society of the Council of the Gods. *Virtue*

and

and *Juſtice* fled from her, and were griev'd at her Birth, when they found that her Office was to preſide over human Merits, being ſo ſenſible of her Stupidity in diſtinguiſhing the Virtues of Mankind.

We remember, ſaid they, in the Reign of a certain Queen, that we were employ'd in an Agriculture of a finer Soil than this, to every one, for even the very Straw and Chaff of that Wheat was pure Gold, and in ſome meaſure valuable to every Proprietor: We have always a plentiful Crop, for, ſoon after the Grain is ſown, it begins to ſhoot forth; neither do we perceive any Birds or Vermin devour the Grain, any Weeds among it, any blighted Corn, any immoderate Rains to hurt the Blade, or even Winds to diſturb it; but Heaven ſeems always favourable from its Embrio to its Maturity; yet notwithſtanding all this, but few will taſte the Golden Bread, becauſe their Grain not being ſown in their own, but in a foreign Land, they are Strangers to the Management thereof, whether the Whole, or a Part, or what Quantity may be ſown; yet notwithſtanding all theſe Inconveniencies they'll venture the Conſequence.

Here are many Hands employ'd, and tho' we take all poſſible Care, there will be ſome Gleanings, and ſome Loſs in the carrying the Corn in, as likewiſe after thruſhing, many Grains will lie concealed in the

Ears, all which Accidents undoubtedly diminiſh the whole; but whoever are the Gainers by theſe Diſadvantages, we know not, but it is certain we are exempted from all Benefits of this Kind, being never permitted to come into the Field in the time of Harveſt; yet before the Sheaves are all carry'd out of the Field, it is inviſibly gleaned. But I ſhould obſerve to you one thing in particular, that this Golden Corn does not like other Grain increaſe and multiply in proportion to what is ſown, but the Harveſt produces Profit to ſome by the Loſs of others.

As ſoon as that was ſpoke, all diſappeared, and I awoke, and muſt confeſs that no Succeſs attended me, as I predicted from my Dream, as you may judge by the Particulars thereof; the Non-increaſe of Grain and the inviſible Gleaners were Predictions of ill Fortune.

DREAM II.

Of the Aſſembly of the GODS.

ONE Night I went very early to refreſh myſelf with the Sweetneſs of Sleep, and happen'd to have a Dream which gave me no ſmall Pleaſure.

By

By ſome means or other I was convey'd above into the Clouds, where I thought there was an Aſſembly of the Gods: At firſt I was in Fear leſt I ſhould offend, and be hurl'd down again; but happening to ſee *Minerva* ſmile upon me, I ſoon was eaſy, and heard the following agreeable Converſation.

Jupiter ſaid it was his Deſire that there ſhould be no Petitions granted to Mankind without his Approbation; that neither *Apollo*, *Venus*, *Minerva*, or any of the reſt, ſhould do any thing for Mortals till his Pleaſure was firſt known; for, added the God, ſeveral of them, blinded by Avarice, petition us for things unfitting for Mortals to ask, or the Godhead to grant. There are Things done among them which are contrary to my Will, tho' I permit it, leaving them entirely while on ſuch Buſineſs, to the Diſpoſal of the Goddeſs FORTUNE, whoſe Votaries they are, to do what ſhe pleaſes with them. When they ask a Bleſſing for ſuch Undertakings, they at the ſame time ſecretly deſire others may be afflicted for their Sakes: Succeſs cannot attend all in ſuch Proceedings, and he that prays for himſelf muſt conſequently covet the Downfal of his Neighbour: Let us then have no Regard to ſuch Petitions, nor make a Few rejoice at the Expence of many Mourners: While their Invocations are grounded on ſordid

ſordid Views, without any Regard to ſpiritual Affairs, let us bar our Ears againſt them: Their Pomp, Grandeur, Wealth, Honour, and Pleaſures therein, are as nothing in our View, we only regard their Virtues, which proceed from us to make them happy like ourſelves, and which we grant by ſincere and humble Intreaties: If Men do things deſign'd to diffuſe a general Good, Providence will favour their Undertakings; but when their Actions are calculated for their own private Intereſt, and to the Detriment of their Fellow-Creatures, let us not be ſo inconſiſtent as to lend our Aſſiſtance. More was ſaid, which eſcaped my Memory. At laſt I imagined myſelf ſafe upon Earth again, where there was a Temple dedicated to *Virtue*. Soon after I awoke and reflected upon this Dream, which deterr'd me from being concern'd in a certain Affair then on the Anvil.

DREAM III.

Of the River discovered with a new Kind of Fish.

AS soon as Night approached, and enlivening Rest or Sleep overtook me, Fancy began to work, and I dream'd that there was a River discovered, which had a Kind of Fish in it that would turn to a yellow Ointment, bless'd with such an admirable Virtue, as to cure all Sorts of Maladies; which, when discovered to the Lord of the Manor, he agreed with a certain Number of People to catch them for their Use and Benefit, upon the following Agreement, *viz.* That every one should contribute so much to the carrying on the Fishery. The Thing was approved of, and each paid in his Part or Parts, and had a Title or Titles in the Fishery, accordingly, and Nets, Boats, and other proper Materials, were prepared, and Men employed, for the carrying on the same. Another Condition of this Agreement was, that none should have a certain Right in this Fishery: That *Mercury*, the Messenger of the Gods, should be dispatch'd to the Goddess FORTUNE, to acquaint her of it, and the Time of Fishing, her Presence being then

then abſolutely neceſſary. FORTUNE accordingly attended, and performed the Office of diſtributing the Fiſhes; to ſome ſhe gave many, to others few, and to a Multitude none at all; ſo that if thoſe unhappy ones ſhould at any time labour under any Diſtemper, they muſt inevitably periſh for want of that healing Balſam. Several had loſt their All, and bitterly lamented the Diſcovery of that River, as being the ſole Occaſion of all their Unhappineſs: Thoſe that had received a ſmall Portion ſeem'd not to be much elated, the Profit hardly anſwering the Fatigue: But thoſe that were loaded with Fiſhes praiſed the Diſcovery, declaring they were made rich by the Spoils of others; and that they would indulge themſelves in Pleaſure, without having any Regard to the melancholy Condition of the unhappy Sufferers. This Speech to me, even in my Dream, ſeem'd very ſhocking; and imagining myſelf to be at the Bottom of a very high Hill, I with much Difficulty gain'd the Top, when I immediately awoke, and made ſuch proper Reflections on every Circumſtance of this important Dream, as to diſſuade me from a certain Undertaking, from which I had before flatter'd myſelf with receiving great Advantage.

DREAM IV.

Of the old Birds Inſtructions to their young ones.

ONE Day as I was muſing upon a Bank, Sleep overtook me, and I dream'd that in an adjoining Hedge I heard a prattling of Birds, which to me ſeem'd a Charge giving by the old ones to their young. My tender Birds, ſaid one of them, you are now grown fit to ſhift for yourſelves, and are going into a wide and troubleſome Wood, where perhaps we may never ſee you more; we therefore think it a Duty incumbent on us to give you proper Inſtructions how to behave to the reſt of the feathered Kind: Innocent and harmleſs Birds, ſuch as the *Dove*, *Robin*, *Linnet*, *&c.* you may ſafely aſſociate with; but the *Eagle*, *Vulture*, *Hawk*, and *Kite*, with others of the voracious Kind, fly from, as Devourers of their Fellow-Creatures: Be civil and courteous to all, and if FORTUNE (whoſe Favour we would never have you ſeek at the Expence of others) ſhould ſmile upon you, don't overlook the reſt of your Species, but conſider that you are but Birds: The Laws among us are very wholſome, and worthy your Obſervation: Be induſtri-

ous, and lay up as great a Treaſure of Corn you can, to guard againſt a bad Harveſt, which often happens thro' the Inclemency of the Seaſon.

There are ſeveral among us that often endeavour, by particular Ways, to drain our Store of Corn from us, under a Pretence that we may multiply it more than a thouſand Fold, by which means many have been deprived of all they had in the World; but never be concerned in Affairs of ſuch Uncertainty, for many have been totally ruined thereby, not only loſing their Corn, but even their very Feathers.

After I had heard this my Viſion chang'd, and I imagined myſelf to be walking over a wide Field, and it rained very hard, which preſently awaked me, and reflecting ſeriouſly on this Dream, I believe I ſaved myſelf from Misfortunes, according to the Circumſtances of it, and you may eaſily perceive what I was undertaking.

DREAM V.

Of the Anſwer of the Oracle.

IT is natural for the mind to have imperfect Ideas in Sleep, and its Faculties inſenſibly to operate: My Thoughts are generally ſerene and compos'd when I go to reſt, and laſt Night I had a particular Dream.

I imagin'd myſelf walking in a Wood dedicated to ſome Deity, where were very pleaſant Paths and verdant Walks, and the Trees rang'd in a beautiful Order. In the middle of the Wood was a Temple ſituated in a Grove: Coming to the Entrance of it I ſaw at a ſmall Diſtance a reverend Sire talking very earneſtly to a Man I knew not; they parted and the Man came away with deep Concern: I ſaluted him with the Time of the Day, and he return'd the Salutation; I made bold to ask him the reaſon of his Concern, and he in a friendly manner anſwer'd thus:

In that Temple is an Oracle which I have been conſulting, becauſe my All is ventured in a certain Project, and I am ſolicitous to know the Event of it. I have pray'd to *Jupiter* for a Bleſſing, and have promis'd with ſolemn Vows (if my Wiſhes are crown'd with Succeſs) that I will be liberal in Pro-

portion to Mankind in general, and only reſerve for myſelf a competent Sufficiency: After I had told the Reverend Father this, he went in, and ſtaying ſome time for a Revelation, he return'd to me with this Anſwer: That *Jupiter* was regardleſs of thoſe who ſought after Wealth by the Ruin or Detriment of others, but gave a Bleſſing to the Induſtrious, aſſuring them that their Endeavours ſhould be ſucceſsful, and that all my Petitions were of no Effect, becauſe they were founded upon avaritious Principles; but if I had pray'd for Virtues or internal Riches, I ſhould have been heard and my Petitions granted.

Reflecting upon theſe Words, I knew it to be my own Caſe, and ruminating upon the Vainty of my Imaginations it preſently awaked me, and I immediately deſiſted from engaging in an uncertain Project then on the Carpet, for Hope (the laſt Reſort of Mankind) had forſaken me.

DREAM VI.

Of the Prophecy of the Golden Shower.

AFTER I had enjoy'd the Bleſſing of Light, and alternate Night call'd me to reſt, the following viſionary Thoughts preſented to my View. I ſaw a Multitude of People running haſtily without Doors, ſome holding up their Hats and ſome their Aprons, looking towards Heaven in full Expectation of an immediate Bleſſing from thence. I ask'd the Meaning thereof, and was told, that according to a certain Prophecy, they every Minute expected a Golden Shower, and had put themſelves to very conſiderable Expences in order to guard their Heads and Hands from the Violence of thoſe weighty Drops; and for proper Conveniencies to provent the Loſs of them: And indeed the time of the Prophecy was now completely fulfill'd, for in that Minute the Shower began, not of real Gold, as they imagin'd, but of Rain, which not only fruſtrated their Expectations, but was attended with worſe Conſequences; for the Rain, join'd with the killing Thought of the fruitleſs Charge they had been at, had reduced ſeveral to a very languiſhing Condition.

Some

Some then began to rail againſt the Prophecy, ſaying it was falſe, and that it was to have been a Shower of real ſolid Gold, and it was only Rain, but a certain Sage ſaid they were miſtaken in the Interpretation, for that the Rain; was to be mere Water, which refreſhing the Earth with a Bleſſing it had been ſeveral Months deprived of, would make it productive, and render it in a very large Degree capable of diffuſing its Benefits to Mankind in general, by becoming fertile, and opening her Boſom to yield her Golden Stores of Plenty of all things neceſſary; and they that rightly underſtood the Propheſy took it in this Senſe, and ſtaying within Doors, ſaved themſelves from the Inconveniencies the others labour-ed under.

The Sagacity of this venerable Perſon awak'd me, and diſcouraged me from an intended Project, by plainly diſcovering to me the Fallacy of my Expectations.

DREAM VII.

Of the Rich Apparel loaded with Treaſure.

NOT long after I had laid my Head upon my Pillow, I began to compoſe myſelf to Reſt, and imagined myſelf to be clothed in the richeſt Attire poſſible. I was greatly ſurprized at the Splendidneſs of my Appearance, as likewiſe at the finding immenſe Treaſure in my Pockets; but over my Head was the following remarkable Motto, *From Ruins I am raiſed.* I thought I appeared in the publick Streets, and every one that paſs'd by read my Motto. I ſeemed to be ſenſible in my Dream from whence my Succeſs was derived, and endeavoured to lay hold on the Motto to deſtroy it, but my Attempt was vain. Many of my Acquaintance paſs'd by, and ſaluted me with Gratulations of my Succeſs, ſaying at the ſame time that they had contributed to the making of my Fortune; but I was ſo giddy grown, and ſo deprived of Reaſon, that I entirely forgot myſelf, (*Know thy ſelf*, the greateſt Jewel and Ornament of human Nature, was loſt) and took no Notice of them. I continued a conſiderable time in romantically thinking on my good

Fortune;

Fortune; but at laſt my Sun, which had mounted to its Meridian, declined; my Glory vaniſhed; my uſual Raiment was put on; and my pure Cogitations or Senſes returned, and made me in a more happy State than before. I awoke, and was well pleaſed with my Dream, for I ſoon found I had been a favourite Son of FORTUNE, who appeared to me in my Dream (which I forgot to mention before) with her ſweeteſt Smiles, and loaded me with her Favours; for the next Day the News of great Succeſs was ſounded in my Ears; you may eaſily imagine that it wholly proceeded from the Misfortunes of others; and that the Bleſſing did not come from Heaven, but was merely the Effect of Chance.

I muſt confeſs that the Remembrance of my Pride in my Viſion was ſo uſeful a Leſſon to me, as to regulate my Behaviour afterwards with the greateſt Humility; a Virtue which keeps Men in their true Senſes and pure Underſtanding.

DREAM VIII.

Of many travelling to an unknown Land.

WHEN buſy Day was over, and Silent Night came on, I laid me down to Reſt, and was entertained with the following Viſion: I imagined I was on a Plain in a ſerene Day, and at a Diſtance from me I ſaw a great Multitude of People flock together from all Parts. I enquired the Reaſon of their Meeting, and was informed, that they hearing of a peaceful happy Land that flow'd with Milk and Honey, they were ſetting out for that bliſsful Country, having an ardent Deſire to dwell there; that ſeveral of their Friends, who had for a conſiderable time reſided there, had by Letter charm'd them with a Deſcription of the Fruitfulneſs of the Climate; and as the others were determined never to return here again, ſo they were reſolved upon this Progreſs, in order to enjoy with them a Share in this Land of Happineſs.

But the Road to this uncommon Country was very difficult, there being no Path to direct them, nor any one to guide them when out of their Way: Therefore to

render this Inconvenience more eaſy, they had been at the Temple of the Gods, to invoke their Aſſiſtance on ſo intricate an Occaſion.

Having ſaid this they immediately march'd forwards, and my Eye purſued them till they were out of Sight, each loaded with Money and Proviſions more or leſs according to his Abilities, at which Time I awak'd, but Nature not having its due Refreſhment of Sleep, I immediately fell into another Slumber, and imagined I ſaw thoſe very People returning from their expected Paradiſe; ſome were ſick, ſome lame, others fatigued in wandering in a wrong Road; in ſhort, the greater Part of them were more or leſs afflicted with Grief, and heartily exclaimed againſt the Folly of their Undertaking, for they were deſtitute both of Money and Proviſions. The Horror of this diſmal Sight awak'd me, and I was inwardly pleaſed in thinking it was not my Fortune to make one in the Number of thoſe unhappy Pilgrims.

DREAM IX.

Of the Aſſembly of the Birds.

WHEN the Sun had journey'd down the Weſt of Heaven, and ſate in the Lap of *Thetis*, Sleep (the greateſt Bleſſing to wearied Nature) ſeized upon my Senſes, and I fell into the following Dream.

I fanſy'd myſelf to be walking through many pleaſant Fields and Meadows, about the Time when the Sun is in the Zenith, and paints all Things with his brighteſt Beams, affording a delightful Scene, and at laſt came to the Side of a Wood, where I heard a great Noiſe of Birds: Approaching nearer to them I found their Voices articulate, which put me in mind of the Poetick Age, when Animals could ſpeak. I was attentive to their Community, and found they had ſummoned each other to that Aſſembly, in order to the redreſſing ſome Grievances among them.

There were great Complaints laid againſt all the voracious Kind; the weaker Sort alledged, that it was a great Unhappineſs they laboured under, to fall a Prey to the moſt powerful of the winged Creatures; that it was very unjuſt and cruel for them

not to be content with the ſame Diet as others, without ſacrificing their own Species for Subſtence. The Eagle, and others of the Savage Race, reſented this bold Speech, and wonder'd they ſhould be convened upon ſuch an Occaſion. The Vulture in particular alledged that they were irrational Beings, and not capable of admitting any Change: See, ſays he, Men, how they act, who are endued with Reaſon: Do they ſtudy for the Good of each other in all Things? Do they in all their Proceedings invent Projects and lay Schemes for the Good of the whole? Does not ſometimes one ſwim by the ſinking of another, making their Fall a Footſtool for his Exaltation? When Mankind level all Things for the Emolument or Good of each other, and make Laws and Precepts for the Good of every Individual, then, and not till then, ſhall you find a Reformation in us; for it is highly requiſite that Man (the Darling of Heaven) ſhould firſt ſet us ſo remarkable an Example.

This Speech occaſioned a Confuſion among them, each endeavouring at the ſame time to deliver his Sentiments, the Noiſe of which was ſo great, as to rouze me from this inſtructive Dream.

DREAM X.

Of the Voyage to the Iſlands of Providence and Fortune.

AFTER I had been wearied with the Fatigues of the Day, Sleep ſuddenly ſurprized me, and my Imagination preſented to me the following pleaſing Ideas.

I thought I was upon a pleaſant Hill, which afforded me a fine Proſpect of the Ocean, with a Ship ſailing upon it, from whence flew a Bird with a Sprig in his Beak, which dropping before me, it immediately turned into a Letter: I took it up, and the Contents were as follow.

I am juſt now arrived from a long Voyage, and imagining you would be glad to have an Account thereof, have given you the Satisfaction.

We ſet ſail ſome time ago, and took on board a Multitude of Paſſengers for the Iſland of FORTUNE: We had very fair weather till we came under the Line, at which time we were attack'd with very great Showers of Rain; having paſſed it, the Heavens grew clear and calm again, and all were delighted with the ſtrange Birds and Fiſhes ſeen in our Paſſage. After ſome weeks ailing we came near the Iſland of

Provi-

Providence; it is a moſt rich and flouriſhing Land, abounding with fine Rivers ſtored with Plenty of Fiſh, all ſorts of Fowl, Beaſts, Fruit, Corn, and every other Neceſſary of Life; the Inhabitants are very happy, being of a contented and induſtrious Diſpoſition: Our Paſſengers were delighted with its beautiful Proſpect, together with the deſcription given of it, and endeavoured to perſuade the Commander to ſet them aſhore; but he told them it was not allowable to touch there, for that being a trading Port, none but Ships of Merchandize were permitted to enter; we then ſailed on towards the Antartick Pole, till we came to the Iſland of FORTUNE; we were ſurprized to ſee how barren it appeared, being productive of nothiug but ſome Gold Duſt, which was in different Quantities in ſeveral Parts of the Iſland; and the Climate was ſo very uncertain, that neither Man or Beaſt could dwell there. They all went aſhore, in order to collect ſome of the Golden Oar; ſome went in Bodies together, going Partners in whatever Quantity they ſhould happen to find; but each of thoſe who flattered themſelves with the Favour of the Patroneſs of the Iſland, ſearched ſeparately for himſelf.

After they had all employ'd themſelves about a Month in the Purſuit of this uncertain

tain Commodity, they returned on board, each laden with the Trophy of his Succeſs; ſome had found a conſiderable Quantity, two were loaded with it, but a great many had the Misfortune to find none at all. It is almoſt impoſſible to deſcribe the different Paſſions that reigned in every Countenance; thoſe who had found but little, their Joy was moderate, and the Joy of thoſe that were loaded was altogether as extravagant; but thoſe who had found nothing were true Pictures of Diſcontent and Deſpair: They were deſtitute of every thing, having laid out all their Money to fit themſelves for this Voyage, in Hopes of a very advantageous Return; and what contributed more to the Misfortune of theſe Wretches, neither the Commander, nor the ſucceſsful Paſſengers, would relieve them.

Struck with the Unhappineſs of their Caſe, it preſently awak'd me, and I took an *Ovid* to divert my Melancholy, when on opening the Book, the firſt Line that met my Eyes was,

Felix quem faciunt aliena Pericula cautum.

I took the hint, and deſiſted from entering into ſuch a precarious Undertaking.

DREAM XI.

Of the Garden of Golden Fruit.

WHEN gentle Sleep had cloſed my Eyes, and imperfect Ideas began to revolve, I found myſelf walking in a troubleſome Place, among Brambles and Buſhes, till at laſt I came into a more eaſy Path, where I ſaw two Ways; I knew not which to take, for both ſeemed alike at the Entrance: It was my Fortune to chuſe the right way, their being on both Sides of the Path nothing but pleaſant Meadows, deck'd with Golden Flowers, and at the End of the Walk was a Garden, as delightful as that in the Infancy of the World, wherein were Trees bearing Golden Fruit. I for ſome time amuſed myſelf in thoſe delightful Walks and Paths, made more pleaſant by the radiant Beams of *Phœbus*, and at laſt offered to pluck the fruit; but it reſiſted my Touch, and would not part from the Tree. I afterwards made ſeveral other Eſſays, but to no Purpoſe, and going from Tree to Tree made the like Attempt, but all in vain; at laſt I came to a diminutive one, and got a ſingle Apple of Gold, which very ſenſibly diminiſhed in the plucking, as though Part of it returned again

again into the Body or Trunk of its original Parent, and made it ſcarcely worth the Trouble of gathering.

The Oddneſs of this Fancy very much ſurprized me, and awak'd me out of my Dream; when reflecting ſeriouſly upon the true Signification of it, I was fully reſolved never to be concerned in any thing that was attended with ſuch hazardous Conſequences.

DREAM XII.

Of the Bees.

WHILE the Sun was affording his Beams to the other contiguous Part of the world, or the Southern Hemiſphere, I enjoyed the Golden Dew of Reſt, and was entertained in my Dream with an agreeable rural Scene.

I thought I was at my Country Houſe, and walking about my Gardens, where I had ſeveral Hives of Bees, it being then about the Cloſe of Day, when thoſe Inſects had left their Labour.

Hearing a louder Noiſe among them than uſual, I drew near to underſtand the Occaſion of it, and was mightily ſurprized to hear them talk in my own dialect. The Opportunity of hearing their diſputes very much pleaſed me, for I perceived they were upon Matters of high Conſequence. Of what they had been diſputing before, I know not, but after my Approach one of them made the following Speech.

We have always been famous for Induſtry throughout the world, and noted particularly by Men for that commendable Virtue; let us then ſtill purſue it, and not run into Schemes and Projects, which will not only

only prove very detrimental to our Commonwealth, but may in time be the total Subverſion of it. It may be objected that Man, tho' he prizes this Virtue, does not always practiſe it, but frequently launches into wild Extravagancies: To this I anſwer, that ſuch a Deviation frequently proves fatal to him, and in the End makes him exclaim againſt his own wild deluſive Notions. Let us not then follow ſo imperfect an Example, but ſtrictly adhere to that which will undoubtedly makes us a great and glorious People: Beſides, the wiſeſt of Men in all Ages have not only recommended Induſtry as a beneficial Virtue, but even as a pleaſant one: Do not we fly from Field to Field, from Flower to Flower, and dwell in the moſt delightful Gardens, collecting the choiceſt of Sweets, which, by the Art of Chymiſtry, we diſtil into Honey, ſo live deliciouſly upon the Fruits of our Labour. If we keep up ſtrictly to the Syſtem of our Conſtitution, what is there can hurt us? we have a Governor, to whom we ought to ſubmit, and who by his Authority baniſhes all Drones from the Hive: Should a ſelect Body propoſe any thing to him which ſeem'd calculated for their own private Intereſt, he would abſolutely reject it, as being inconſiſtent with the Good of the whole; endeavouring to preſerve a perfect Unity among us all, by

not ſuffering any one to grow rich at the Expence of another's Fortune; for which Reaſon all Manner of Gaming is prohibited among us; a Vice ſo very pernicious to all States, and which Man in particular has ſeverely felt the Effects of; let us not then write after ſo imperfect a Copy, but ſhun the Rock they ſo fatally have ſplit on; let us imitate our Anceſtors, by walking in the Paths of Induſtry, the only Road to ſure and ſolid Happineſs.

This Narration was received with univerſal Applauſe, and nothing but Exclamations of Joy were heard, the Noiſe of which awak'd me from my Dream; and I heartily regretted a Folly I a little before had been guilty of, upon which the Speech of this Bee was a ſevere Satyr.

DREAM XIII.

Of Autumn taking his Leave of Winter.

I Was laſt Night delighted with a very agreeable Dream; it was of *Autumn*'s taking his Leave of *Winter*.

Winter (ſaid *Autumn*) you are a Subject of the *Sun* as well as I, and ſo are *Spring* and *Summer*, and we muſt all mutually obey him. I have been here theſe three Months, and muſt now travel towards the South; but let me intreat you before I go, to be favourable and moderate in your Temper, nor make any one ſuffer, to ſhew an abſolute Authority; wherever you go, endeavour to make all happy; imitate the other Seaſons of the Year, whoſe ſole Properties conſiſt in doing good. *Spring* buds forth, *Summer* increaſes, and I ripen the Fruits af the Earth, all cheriſhing them internally; and I deſire you to be equally beneficial, by having a Regard to the Sons of Men; do not numb or freeze them to Death, but be of a mild compaſſionate Nature, not over-ruling or oppreſſing them; do not put on an immoderate Crown of hoary Froſt, nor ſend forth your hurtful Winds and Rain, that when I return I may find them in a happy

happy State according to my wiſh; for I have Man very much at Heart, which makes me thus intercede for him; but I fear ſomething will happen in your Reign which will be detrimental to many; I have not time to ſtay and ſee the Iſſue; when we meet again I hope you'll give me a true Account: I heard of it as ſoon as I came, for *Summer* acquainted me before he departed; it will make ſome rejoyce, and many mourn, the Thoughts of which mightily perplex me: I am amazed at their Practices! Why can't they join in one another's Intereſt, and mutually contrive the Happineſs of the whole. Many undoubtedly will ſhed Tears, occaſioned partly by your Severity, and partly by their own Diſappointments. But I can ſtay no longer, *Summer* is going farther, and ſummons's me to ſucceed him. I muſt go! ſo farewel! Remember me to *Spring*. *Summer* greets you.

Dream XIV.

Of the Golden Mountain.

ONE Night as ſoon as Sleep had ſealed my Eyes, I fell into a Dream, which to me ſeemed ſomething particular.

I thought I ſaw a Golden Mountain in the Air, very lofty, and on the Top of it many Trees bearing Golden Fruit; there were Multitudes of People below looking at at it, and ſeveral made themſelves Wings to fly up to it, which were very expenſive; ſome parting with their Jewels, others ſelling their Eſtates, and ſacrificing their All on ſo alluring a Proſpect, in Hopes of aſcending this Golden Meteor. Having made this Proviſion, each took his Flight towards this Pinnacle of Temptation, though few had the Happineſs to arrive at the deſired Grove; thoſe that did, deſcended as ſafely, each laden more or leſs with that Peruvian Treaſure; two of them were indeed loaded with it, but thoſe they told me were the darling Sons of the fickle Goddeſs. The greater Part of them ſoaring too high, met with the Fate of *Dædalus*'s Son; the Heat of the Sun diſſolving the Cement of their Wings, whereby they and their Hopes fell to the Ground; ſome indeed recover'd them-

themſelves again, others had not that Happineſs, but ſorely lamented their Fall, and, like the Tortoiſe in the Fable, ſeverely felt the Effects of an ambitious Temper: Each in his Countenance had the Signs of Sorrow and Deſpair, and nothing was heard but bitter Exclamations, ſaying, Oh my Subſtance! Oh my Goods! Oh my Jewels! Oh my Eſtate!

The Difference of theſe two Scenes of Joy and Vexation rouz'd me from my Lethargy, and I immediately began to reflect upon the mutable Paſſions of Mankind, and how ſoon Hope is changed into Diſappointment. I therefore was fully reſolved to be content with my preſent Condition, nor riſque the Loſs of what I had, for the chimerical Hope of getting more: In ſhort, the Horror I conceived at the Sufferings of ſo many, made me determine never to truſt my Subſtance to the diſpoſal of FORTUNE.

DREAM XV.

Of Fortune's deſcending upon Earth.

WHILE lying in ſilent Sleep, I happened to have the following Dream. I thought that FORTUNE deſcended upon the Earth, and a great Multitude of People of every Station immediately flock'd to her, and paid their Adoration. She ask'd them what they wanted. They ſaid that they approach'd her with Humility to entreat the Favour of depoſiting their Treaſure in her Hands, to be diſtributed afterwards as ſhe ſhould think proper.

FORTUNE ſaid, why need you give me this Trouble? Can't every one be ſatisfy'd with his own? What need have you to deprive one another? I ſhall not deny you the Favour of diſtributing, but am perſuaded the Conſequence to ſome of you will prove very fatal. This Speech of the Goddeſs had no Effect upon the giddy Adventurers, each being fully reſolv'd to depoſit his Money as before ſupplicated.

FORTUNE then told them ſhe was going about other Buſineſs, but would ſoon give them Notice to convene. The Convention was made accordingly, and from her Lap the Goddeſs took the Gold receiv'd from

the Multitude, and the firſt who proſtrated himſelf before her, obtained her favour. A ſecond did the like, and very earneſtly begg'd for Aſſiſtance, alledging that his all entirely depended on her Friendſhip. The Goddeſs rejected his Petition, and with a frown bid him be gone: Then two appeared before her; to the firſt of whom ſhe ſaid, ſhe had nothing, for his Share was allotted for his Companion: The Attributes of *Juſtice* do not belong to me, for it is my Province to take from one to give to another; upon the whole ſome had loſt a Part, others a Moiety, and ſome the whole of their Money depoſited, which made Joy or Sorrow appear in the Countenance of each, in Proportion to the favour they had received of the Goddeſs. Thoſe who had loſt their All, rail'd at FORTUNE, whom before they ſo much ador'd, and wondered at their own Stupidity in truſting their temporal Happineſs to ſo fickle a Deity, ſaying, that if they had ſacrific'd at the Temple of *Providence*, and implor'd a Bleſſing on their Induſtry, their Prayers would have been heard and their Deſires granted.

DREAM XVI.

Of a Tree which ſuddenly ſprung up and bore Fruit.

IT is natural to dream of Affairs we are concerned in, or of ſomething which has Reference thereto, which occaſion'd the following Dream, alluding to a Tranſaction I had then in hand.

As I was walking in my Garden, and delighting myſelf with the pleaſant Proſpect the Horizon afforded, I ſaw a Tree ſuddenly ſpring up, enlarge and ſpread its Boughs, which were loaded with beautiful Fruit; and two of theſe Boughs in particular had the moſt ſplendid of all. I endeavoured to pluck off ſome, but the Tree was ſo high, that I could by no means reach the Branches, nor was there a Poſſibility of climbing up; the forbidden Tree in the Garden of *Eden* could not be higher, to prevent any Creature from taſting it; but as I was viewing the Beauty of it, and thinking how happy it would make me if I could taſte it, I perceived the Fruit to drop one after another, but knew not what afterwards became of it, and at laſt only Leaves remained. This Event gave me no ſmall Uneaſineſs, to ſee ſuch Golden Treaſure be-

fore me, and be deprived of the Pleaſure of enjoying it: But the Tree ſtill remained, which gave me ſome Hopes that the next Seaſon it might bear again to my Advantage: Accordingly it again budded, and yielded the ſame Fruit as before, and in the ſame manner again diſappointed me, therefore I ordered the Tree to be cut down, and in performing the Execution, it diſappeared, which ſurprized me exceedingly, and diſturbed me from Sleep.

It is eaſy to underſtand the Signification of the Tree, and my vain Expectation of the Fruit; it was a Prediction of the Frowns of FORTUNE, which attended me ſoon after.

DREAM XVII.

Of Plowing a Spacious Field.

AS ſoon as refreſhing Sleep overtook me I imagined I was plowing a ſpacious Field, and before the Work was quite finiſhed, the Plough ſtruck againſt ſomething; I ſtopt to ſee what it was, and found there an Iron Pot of Gold, of the current Coin; there was a very conſiderable Sum, and round the Rim of it was this Inſcription, *Ex multis ad paucos*; from many to few. I obſerved the Coin to be ſomewhat leſſen'd both in Circumference and Thickneſs, and the Stamp very faint, as tho' ſome chymical Art had diſſolved the Extreme and Superficies. I carried my Treaſure Home by the Help of others, and could not forbear muſing on the Inſcription, and what could be the Meaning of it. Having got Poſſeſſion of my Treaſure, I began to count it, but to my great Surprize all vaniſhed, except a few Pieces. The Joy which I felt before, was now changed into an oppoſite Paſſion; being very deeply concerned at ſuch an unexpected Diſappointment; and I thought it hard that the Pains I had taken ſhould produce ſo little Advantage.

I ſoon

I ſoon after awoke, and then began to reflect upon my own Enterprizes, imagining this Dream to have ſome Alluſion to them, and the Event proved accordingly; the Plough ſignify'd Labour and Toil, the Gold, Succeſs; but the Reducement ſeemed to intimate a blighted Harveſt.

DREAM XVIII.

Of the Shepherds and Sheep.

WHEN Day was faded away, and the ſucceeding Night had lull'd me to reſt, I had a particular Dream.

I fanſy'd myſelf to be going over ſome Downs, and met ſeveral Shepherds with their Flocks of Sheep, and were buſily diſcourſing about them. One ſaid, by ſome means or other half the Wooll of his Sheep was gone; another ſaid three Fourths of his; the third ſaid all his Wooll was entirely loſt; but the Fourth ſaid his was greatly increaſed. Hearing this, I obſerved their flocks, and ſaw ſome lean and half naked; others had little upon them, and many none at all, ſhivering like an Aſpen Leaf, it being then Winter Seaſon; but one flock in particular had a very great Quantity of Wooll upon them. I took the freedom to ask the Shepherds the Meaning of it: They anſwered, they did not know; they had heard that all their Maſters, except one, had met with Misfortunes, and parted with their Subſtance to gain a Shadow; but in what manner, they were inſenſible; they believed the Maſter of the woolly flock had got all the other Maſters Wooll; that for their parts

parts they minded nothing but Induſtry, and whatever they got remained with them, and increaſed gradually making them happy. After this my Imagination rambled into a field ſown with Corn, and being in its Maturity I offered to gather ſome Ears, but as ſoon as I touch'd them they blighted, and immediately a little flock of large Birds came and devoured all: Soon after another flock of Birds, more numerous than the former, came into the ſame field, and found nothing but Straw and Chaff, there being no Corn remaining.

This ſtrange Scene awoke me, and notwithſtanding I apprehended ill Succeſs would attend a certain Undertaking, I fell into the ſame Misfortune with many others, which might have been prevented if I had put the ſame faith in Dreams as many do.

DREAM XIX.

Of the Ants and Bees.

I Thought in my Dream that early one Morning the Heaven was very ſerene, and the Sun painted the verdant Plains with his pleaſant Beams, when I was walking thro' a ſilent Wood, and delighted with the Songs of the feather'd Flocks, at laſt at ſome Diſtance I perceiv'd a Multitude of Ants and Bees ranged in a very regular Order, as tho' they were convened upon ſome important Occaſion. I approached as near as poſſible without being ſeen, and found they were upon the Subject of Superiority. I thought I was in a Dream, and therefore was not much amazed at their Gift of Locution. The Ants ſaid they believed themſeves to be the moſt excellent of Inſects, being very provident, and making Preparation againſt the Neceſſities of a pinching Winter, and in that Reſpect were recommended as a Monitor to the Race of Mankind, which was in their Opinion ſomething ſo noble, as to give them the Preference to all other Inſects The Bees reply'd, if that was all they had to glory in, their Cauſe was in a tottering Condition; for they could make it appear that they not only profited Mankind by an Example of Induſtry, but by their Labour

afforded them Honey and Honey-Combs, and ſacrific'd both that and their Lives to the Lord of the Creation.

Our Government (added they) is acknowledged by all to be no way inferior to yours, we baniſhing all lazy Subjects from our Territories, and initiating our young ones in the Principles of Induſtry. No one with us is ſuffer'd to riſe by the ſubverſion of another, or are any permited to fly away with their own ſubſtance, or ſquander it on ſtrange Inventions. Content with what each acquires by his Labour, he freely enjoys it, and bleſt in ſuch a ſituation, becomes a uſeful Member to the whole Community. The Ants reply'd your Aſſertions are true, and we allow you the ſuperiority.

As ſoon as they ſaid that, all vaniſhed and I found my ſelf among thorns and Briers, where I could hardly diſentangle myſelf; this unexpected Change awaked me.

DREAM XX.

Of the Tree and its Branches.

BEING very much delighted with a Country Life, rural Scenes oftentimes in Sleep work upon my fancy; and the other Night I imagined myſelf to be in a pleaſant Wood, where the Trees appeared gay and flouriſhing; I was near one whoſe ſmaller Branches ſeemed to be of a diſcontented Diſpoſition, complaining of the Detriment they ſuſtained by the larger ones. Why, ſaid they, ſhould you enfeeble us, whoſe Aſſiſtance you cannot poſſibly do without, our Aid being abſolutely neceſſary for the Production of the fruit; inſtead therefore of weakening our Power and Ability, you ſhould rather cheriſh and ſupport us; but by ſome late Proceedings of yours the Virtue of the Earth, by which we ſubſiſt and by our Labour produce fruit, is interrupted, and we are deprived of Nutriment, ſo conſequently muſt periſh. I was not a little amazed at this Complaint of the Vegetable, and ſtrictly obſerving the Tree, on a ſudden I ſaw one Branch decay, and then another, and ſo on, till it became deſpicable; but ſome large Branches remained, and were enriched by the Decay of the ſmaller. It

was ſtrange to me that trees ſhould imitate Man (for no doubt that was not the only one) and while I was under my Surprize I awoke, and called to Mind a former Dream I had, concerning the Bees, and I compared the Body or trunk of the tree to the Governor of thoſe Inſects, the greater Limbs of the tree to his ſuperior Miniſters, and the inferior Branches to the Subjects.

By Virtue of this dream I relinquiſhed an Affair I had an intention to proſecute, preſaging ſome diſappointment would attend me from the fading of the Branches; and had not my Reaſon ſubdued my deſign, I might have fell into the ſame dilemma as thouſands had done.

DREAM

DREAM XXI.

Of the Beaſts of the Field.

I Dream'd that one Morning I took a Walk into the Fields, where ſeveral Beaſts were feeding, which Nature deſigned for the Service of Mankind; drawing near to them, I heard one harrangue his Brethren in the following Manner: It is very ſtrange, ſays he, that all the Beſtial Kind as well as we, are not beneficial to Man? Why muſt the Lyon, Tyger, Wolf, *&c.* live at their Eaſe, when they may be rendered ſerviceable to Mankind: Brother, replies another, the Beaſts you mention are of a ſavage and untractable Nature, and are ſo far from being uſeful to Man, that very often he falls a Prey to their Hunger: They don't like us feed upon the Product of the Field, and by our Labour retaliate our Maſters for ſo delicious a Repaſt; nor ſhould we think this a Hardſhip, ſince the Ox, Sheep, Deer, *&c.* together with the Birds of the Air, and Fiſhes of the Water, even lay down their Lives for the Suſtenance of that Godlike Creature; we live by him and for him, and wiſh they would not ſo far ſwerve from their own Nature, as to fall a Prey to one another; the laſt Maſter I ſerved, was forced to

part

part with me upon Account of a fooliſh Affair he was engaged in, whereby he loſt his All, and enlarged another's Fortune: 'tis true, it was his own Fault, but this muſt be ſaid in his favour, that if ſuch Propoſals had not been made among them, he never had laboured under this Diſadvantage; but had by his Induſtry increaſed his own Subſtance, and contributed to the Proſperity of thoſe with whom he had been concerned. There are certainly good Laws among Men, but when they deviate from them, they themſelves only are anſwerable for the Conſequences.

I was very attentive to hear ſo rational a Diſcourſe from ſo irrational a Creature, when immediately the Scene ſhifted, and I imagined myſelf to be in a Field of Corn; I pluck'd a few Ears of it, and only one afforded Wheat; the Scene then varied again, and I found myſelf entangled in a Field of Weeds, the Confuſion of which awaked me.

DREAM

DREAM XXII.

Of the Loſs of Flowers.

AFTER I had enjoyed the Bleſſings of the Day, I refreſh'd myſelf with the Bleſſing of Sleep, and dreamed, that behind my Houſe was a pleaſant Garden of Flowers, where I uſed to walk, before the Sun exhaled the Morning Dew. I was walking about the Paths, but the Flowers did not afford me their uſual fragrancy; and at laſt I came to a Roſe-tree, which as ſoon as I touched, the Flowers dropt off; wondering what the Reaſon might be, I ſaw a ſwarm of Bees ſettle upon my flowers on the other ſide of the Garden, which took away all their ſweetneſs and fled away: I then went to ſome Pots of beautiful Carnations, Pinks, *&c.* and they remained untouch'd, but ſome Vermin were endeavouring to devour them, and were obſtructed by a Contrivance of Water; at the ſame time I heard that many of my Neighbours laboured under the like Misfortune. This Scene changed, and I found myſelf upon a barren Heath, where I ſaw trees cramp'd for want of Nouriſhment; and on my Right Hand at a diſtance was a pleaſant Wood, to which I immediately haſten'd;

as

as ſoon as I came to it: the Keeper told me that no body was allowed to enter there, unleſs he was the favourite Son of FORTUNE. Afterwards I ſeemed upon a Rock in the Ocean, void of all Hopes of Relief; but a Ship providentially came that way and preſerved me. Then I found myſelf at Home, and heard that one not far from me had vaſt Quantities of Honey, and was profuſely rich through the Labour of the Bees. Many more Mutabilities occurr'd in my Dream, too numerous to relate.

FINIS.

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